

In the Claims:

All currently pending claims are set forth below:

1. (Previously Amended) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
a pair of radially expanded tubular members having radially expanded threaded portions coupled to one another; and
a quantity of a sealant within the radially expanded threaded portions of the radially expanded tubular members;
wherein the sealant adheres to the radially expanded threaded portions of the radially expanded tubular members.
2. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials.
3. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the sealant includes an initial cure cycle and a final cure cycle.
4. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent without failure.
5. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials.
6. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.
7. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer for improving the adhesion of the sealant to the threaded portions.
8. (Cancelled)

S/N 09/679,906

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)
26. (Cancelled)
27. (Cancelled)
28. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular members comprise wellbore casings.
29. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular members comprise pipes.
30. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular members comprise structural supports.
31. (Cancelled)
32. (Cancelled)
33. (Cancelled)
34. (Cancelled)
35. (Cancelled)
36. (Cancelled)
37. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
a pair of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one another; and
a quantity of a sealant within the threaded portions of the tubular members;
wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,

thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and
sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
wherein the sealant includes an initial cure cycle and a final cure cycle;
wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent without failure;
wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials;
wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for
temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F; and
wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer for
improving the adhesion of the sealant to the threaded portions.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a preexisting structure; and
a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to the
preexisting structure by the process of:
applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular members prior to
coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with a
sealant;
coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;
initially curing the sealant;
positioning the tubular members within the preexisting structure;
radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting
structure; and
finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;
wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,
thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and
sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;

wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing without failure;
wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials;
and
wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

41. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a preexisting structure; and
a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to the preexisting structure by the process of:
applying a primer to the threaded portions of a first group of the tubular members;
applying a sealant to the threaded portions of a second group of the tubular members;
coupling the threaded portions of the first and second groups of tubular members;
initially curing the sealant;
positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;
radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting structure; and
finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;
wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing without failure;
wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials;
and
wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

42. (Previously Presented) An assembly, comprising:
a first solid tubular member comprising a threaded end portion;
a second solid tubular member comprising a threaded end portion that engages
the threaded end portion of the first solid tubular member;
a quantity of a sealant positioned within the threaded portions of the first and
second solid tubular members;
an expansion cone positioned within at least one of the first and second solid
tubular members; and
a pressurized chamber defined by the expansion cone and at least one of the
first and second solid tubular members.
43. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 42, wherein the inside surface of
at least one of the first and second solid tubular members mates with the external
surface of the expansion cone.
44. (Cancelled)
45. (Previously Amended) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
a pair of expandable tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one
another; and
a quantity of a sealant within the threaded portions of the tubular members;
wherein the coupled threaded portions of the expandable tubular members are
located on portions of the expandable tubular members that are deformed
following radial expansion of the expandable tubular members;
wherein the sealant adheres to the threaded portions of the radially expanded
tubular members before, during, and after the radial expansion.
46. (Previously Amended) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
a pair of expandable tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one
another; and
means for providing a fluid tight seal between the coupled threaded portions of

the pair of expandable tubular members following the radial expansion of the coupled threaded portions of the expandable tubular members; wherein the means for providing a fluid tight seal adheres to the threaded portions of the radially expanded tubular members before, during, and after the radial expansion.

47. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting structure, comprising:

means for coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with a sealant;
means for coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;
means for curing the sealant;

means for positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure; and
means for radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting structure.

48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials.

49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, further including:
means for initially curing the sealant prior to radially expanding the tubular members; and
means for finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members.

50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing without failure.

51. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials.

52. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, further including:
means for applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular members
prior to coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with the
sealant.

54. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst.

55. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the primer is applied to the threaded portion of one of the tubular members and the sealant is applied to the threaded portion of the other one of the tubular members.

56. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 55, wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst.

57. (Previously Presented) A system for coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting structure, comprising:

means for applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular members
prior to coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with a
sealant;

means for coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;

means for initially curing the sealant;

means for positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;

means for radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the
preexisting structure; and

means for finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;
wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,

thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing without failure;
wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials; and
wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

58. (Previously Presented) A system for coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting structure, comprising:

means for applying a primer to the threaded portions of a first group of the tubular members;
means for applying a sealant to the threaded portions of a second group of the tubular members;
means for coupling the threaded portions of the first and second groups of tubular members;
means for initially curing the sealant;
means for positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;
means for radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting structure; and
means for finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;
wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing without failure;
wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials; and
wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

59. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
a pair of radially expanded tubular members having radially expanded threaded portions coupled to one another; and
a quantity of a sealant within the radially expanded threaded portions of the radially expanded tubular members;
wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer for improving an adhesion of the sealant to the threaded portions.
60. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials.
61. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the sealant includes an initial cure cycle and a final cure cycle.
62. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent without failure.
63. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials.
64. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.
65. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the tubular members comprise wellbore casings.
66. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the tubular members comprise pipes.

S/N 09/679,906

67. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the tubular members comprise structural supports.